

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN BROOKLYN.**Half Million Dollar Fire Consumes Paint Works of Devos and C. T. Reynolds Company.**

New York, Feb. 19.—A destructive fire broke out tonight in the extensive paint works of F. W. Devos & C. T. Reynolds Company, in Brooklyn. The fire started from some unknown cause, and owing to the highly inflammable character of the contents of the buildings the works were soon destroyed. The firemen directed their efforts to preventing the spread of the fire to adjacent property, consisting of tenement houses.

The building, occupied by the paint works, was stored with large quantities of oil and chemicals, it being stated that more than one thousand barrels of linseed oil were stored on the main floor and cellar of the plant.

Great fears were for a time entertained for the safety of the Brooklyn Union Gas Company works, located just across the street from the fire. There were six large gas tanks filled with gas and these were safely emptied by pumps which distributed the gas to other reservoirs. These works, however, were saved. Over one hundred families were evicted from the tenements and given temporary refuge by neighbors.

There was no loss of life. It is believed that the loss will be between \$400,000 and \$500,000, on which there is said to be \$250,000 insurance.

BRYAN IN COLUMBIA.**Distinguished Nebraskan Talks to Legislators.**

Columbia, Feb. 19.—The address of the Hon. William Jennings Bryan to the General Assembly was delivered in the City Hall at noon today, before an audience which packed the building. The address was to have been delivered in the hall of the House of Representatives, but long before the hour arrived the hall was crowded and it was very evident that it would not hold a tithe of the South Carolinians who wanted to hear the distinguished Nebraskan. The programme was then changed, as stated.

Mr. Bryan left here shortly after 1 o'clock for Spartanburg, where he is to deliver an address tonight.

Mr. Bryan's address lasted for more than an hour and a half, and it was frequently interrupted with applause. He gained the immediate and undivided attention of his large audience, and held its close attention throughout. There is a magnetism in his oratory that is irresistible, and as one listens to his well rounded periods he is irresistibly drawn to the man, no matter how materially one may disagree with him as to the measures he advocates. His address this morning had for its theme the application of moral issues to national policies in order to assure the endurance of the Government. He reiterated in every instance his well-known views on national affairs and declared his allegiance to the Democratic platform on which he has twice gone to defeat as the nominee of his party for the Presidency. He was given a tremendous ovation upon his appearance before his audience and at the close of his address.—News and Courier.

Hester's Cotton Statement.

New Orleans, Feb. 19.—Secretary Hester's weekly Cotton Exchange statement issued today shows for the nineteen days of February a decrease under last year of 96,000 bales, and an increase over the same period year before last of 26,000 bales.

For the 172 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is behind the same days of last year 94,000 and behind the same days year before last 19,000.

The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 154,673 bales, against 207,733 for the same seven days last year and 211,883 year before last.

The movement since September 1 shows receipts at all United States ports to be 6,336,057 bales, against 6,345,140 last year. Overland, across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers to Northern mills and Canada 687,031, against 822,762 last year; interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of the commercial year 324,610, against 295,578 last year; Southern mills takings 1,155,000, against 1,132,937 last year.

The total movement since September 1, 502,098 bales, against 5,596,407 last year and 6,521,064 year before last.

Foreign exports for the week have been 105,614 bales, against 175,193 last year, making the total thus far for the season 4,84,481, against 4,868,061 last year.

The total taking of American mills, North and South and Canada thus far for the season have been 2,74,322 bales, against 2,706,610 last year.

Stocks at the seaboard and the 29 leading Southern interior centers have decreased during the week 77,169 bales, against a decrease during the corresponding period last season of 68,824.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far from the new crop, the supply to date is 8,668,897 bales, against 8,811,481 for the same period last year.

THE WORLD'S VISIBLE SUPPLY.

New Orleans, Feb. 19.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's visible supply of cotton issued today shows the total visible to be 3,777,920, against 3,865,289 last week, and 3,976,495 last year. Of this the total of American cotton is 2,749,920, against 2,834,289 last week, and 2,929,495 last year, and of all other kinds, including Egypt, Brazil, India, etc., 1,028,000, against 1,022,000 last week and 1,047,000 last year.

Of the world's visible supply of cotton there is now afloat and held in Great Britain and Continental Europe 2,115,000 bales, against 2,028,000 last year; in Egypt 244,000, against 181,000 last year; in India 361,000, against 528,000 last year, and in the United States 1,053,000, against 1,238,000 last year.

It looks hard that just about the time Col. Bryan got up to the stage front with his moral issue and Kansas City platform dead duck, the war curtain fell and shut him out.—Wilmington Star.

VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR.**His Reasons for Disapproving the Bill Giving the United States Exclusive Jurisdiction.**

Columbia, Feb. 19.—Governor Heyward today vetoed his first important bill passed by the General Assembly. The Act provides for giving the United States exclusive jurisdiction over certain lands in this State, and was discussed at considerable length in the Senate, the question of "States' rights" being involved.

The reasons are set forth in the message to the Legislature as follows: "I herewith return without my approval an Act entitled an Act ceding to the United States exclusive jurisdiction over certain lands acquired for public purposes within the State, and authorizing the acquisition thereof. My reasons for not approving it are as follows: Section 8, Clause 17, Art. 1, of the Constitution of the United States, contemplates that the consent of the Legislature be freely given to the acquisition by purchase of a particular place or particular places within the State for one of the purposes enumerated in the Constitution. The Act goes beyond the intention of the Constitution in consenting to the acquisition not only by purchase, but also by condemnation or otherwise, not of a particular place or particular places, but of any place within the State without limitation or reference to its situation, locality and present use, or to the size or quantity of the lands to be acquired or the purpose for which it may be acquired by the United States Government.

"In order to protect the State and its citizens, the Legislature in every session of land and renunciation of its sovereignty over the same, should first consider the situation, location and present use of the particular place to be ceded, the amount of land embraced in the cession, and the purpose for which it is to be ceded in order to determine whether such cession is to the public interest.

D. C. Heyward, Governor."

WILL TEST THE LAW.**Interested Parties Will Ship Shad Fish.**

In the United States Circuit Court yesterday Attorney J. P. K. Bryan, representing McDonald & Johnson, Heriot & McQuade, Rainey Y. Cathon, Thomas S. Munnerlyn and St. Julien M. Lachicotte, all of Georgetown, S. C., filed a bill in equity for injunction against the Southern Express Company, in which plaintiffs pray the court to grant them a writ of injunction restraining and enjoining the defendant company from refusing to receive from them shad fish delivered and to be delivered by them to the defendant for transportation to points outside of the State of South Carolina, and from refusing to transport same to points outside the State as heretofore in the usual course of their business as Inter-State common carriers.

The suit is brought to test the constitutionality of the Act passed by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, during the present session, making it unlawful to ship or transport any shad fish beyond the limits of the State on and after February 20, 1904, under penalty thereof provided.

Petitioners claim that in the latter part of the year 1903 they entered into contracts whereby they received in their business large sums in advances, and therefore contracted to ship to persons outside the State certain daily shipments of shad during the present season and have expended large sums in equipment of their business, and have made and are now under contracts with a large number of employees, fishermen and others for the shad season, and show that this threatened discontinuance by the defendants of the Inter-State carriage of shad will deprive them of the only and customary means of quick and direct transportation of shad fish, a perishable article, and will destroy their business and cause petitioners to break all their existing business contracts, and involve them in irreparable loss, and inflict upon petitioners irreparable injury to their damage \$15,000 and upwards, and will involve them in a multiplicity of suits in addition to the destruction of their lawful Inter-State trade and commerce and business.

Petitioners claim that the Act of the General Assembly referred to attempts to hinder and prevent Inter-State trade and commerce, in forbidding the receiving and transportation of any shad fish outside the limits of the State, and thereby is a burden upon and a regulation of Inter-State trade and commerce by the State of South Carolina in contravention of Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution of the United States.

On hearing and filing the verified bill of complaint for injunction in the above entitled cause and on motion of J. P. K. Bryan, solicitor for the complainants, Judge Simonton signed an order and decree directing that the Southern Express Company do show cause before the United States Circuit Court, at 11 a. m., on Wednesday, March 3, 1904, why preliminary injunction should not be granted as prayed in the said bill of complaint.

Pending the hearing the Southern Express Company is specially restrained and enjoined from refusing to receive from the complainants and each of them shad fish delivered and to be delivered for transportation to points outside the State of South Carolina, and from refusing to transport the same to points outside of the State as heretofore in the usual course of their business as Inter-State common carriers.

It was also ordered that the complainants within five days from date of the order enter into a bond to the defendant company in the sum of \$5,000, conditional to pay to the defendant any damages resulting to the defendant company by reason of the granting of the restraining order in case the restraining order should be held to be improvidently issued.—N. and Courier.

Disaster in the Philippines.

Manila, Feb. 19.—Lieut. MacRae and six privates of the constabulary have been killed by a bolo rush of 500 fanatics while patrolling the east coast of the island of Samar. Private Solomon, of the 14th cavalry, stationed at Jolo, has also been killed by bolomen.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**The Usual Rush Legislation which Characterizes the Day Before Adjournment.****The Building and Loan Association Bill and Other Important Measures Killed.**

Columbia, Feb. 19.—The work of the General Assembly today was very much cut up by the speaking of Mr. Bryan and the incident commotion. The day was taken up in giving various bills their third reading. There was an incident fight ready for the third reading of Mr. Mayfield's railroad lease bill, but the bill went to its third reading without a fight.

The House refused to rescind Rule 50, which permits the third reading of bills on the last day of the session, and, after this had been done, and the clincher had been put on this action, there was an effort to undo the action so as to permit bills to receive their final reading tomorrow. There will probably be a fight, over the matter before the session ends.

A great deal of time was taken up in going over matters from the senate, and agreeing to committee reports.

The Senate devoted its morning session to routine work incident to the approach of the close of the session.

At the night session the Senate refused to concur in the House amendments to the railroad merger bill.

Senator Sharpe moved concurrence in the House amendments to the Brice local option bill.

By a vote of 7 to 23 the Senate refused to concur in the House amendments, and, on motion of Senator Brice, non-concurrence was ordered.

Senator Von Kolnitz called up the Sinkler bill to regulate the giving of security for loans under \$25, and the charges to be made therefor.

Senator Rayer moved to strike out certain sections of the bill.

Senator Von Kolnitz opposed the amendments. The amendments proposed would do away with the means for accomplishing that which was proposed by the bill. Senator Von Kolnitz defended the bill. A measure against small money sharks, such as were in Charleston, was needed.

Debate on the bill was adjourned temporarily.

The bill exempting domestic building and loan associations from tax on stock, was taken up.

Senator McIver addressed the Senate. The total assets of the associations in the State were \$2,295,000, composed of three items, paid in installments, profits and bonds and mortgages of borrowing members. Only \$524,000 was on the tax books now.

Why should a tax be imposed on capital invested in these associations? He had been informed that there was a man in the State who was paying \$12,000 a year in building and loan associations and that he had never borrowed a cent. Under this bill this \$12,000 a year would escape all taxation. The proposition of the Comptroller General was not to tax shares borrowed on, and it was not double taxation. If this bill passed there was no longer need for banks in South Carolina because banks were required to pay taxes, and why should a man in vest in bank stock which was taxed when he could invest in building and loan stock, which was not subject to taxation. He saw no reason for deliberately wiping off the books more than a million of taxable property. In addition, the Constitution provided for a uniform rate of taxation. The principal argument in favor of the bill was that building and loan associations enabled people to secure homes and build up communities, thereby placing additional taxable property on the books. But this was true of railroads, which were not handled so tenderly, and it was true of other industries which were taxed. It was poor business which could not pay taxes on one-fourth its assets.

DEFENDS THE B. AND L. ASSOCIATIONS.

Senator Walker had long been connected with building and loan associations, and was now serving them as attorney in his town, and he thought he could speak with some little authority on this question. There was no parallel in any particular between banks and railroads on the one hand and building and loan associations on the other. Building and loan associations were organized for a limited period and were in no sense permanent. One lone officer, the secretary and treasurer, receiving a very small salary. The borrower paid the attorney. They were in no sense for the purpose of investment. Banks were run for the specific purpose of making money. The man who paid \$1,000 a month on building and loan stock was an isolated case.

THE POOR MAN'S INSTITUTION.

The building and loan was the poor man's institution. The poor man's hope of a home, and in many cases his only hope of a home. In his town hundreds of poor men had obtained homes who otherwise would not have built them. He appealed to the Senate tonight as the poor man's advocate. There was no other institution which served the purpose. The bill was right and should pass. Under the system which existed in his town all stockholders had to become borrowers. The present scheme amounted to nothing but an indirect tax on income.

As to the constitutional objection to the bill, even supposing it was unconstitutional, as Mr. Bryan said today, "justice is the foundation of government," and the Senate could afford to wink at the Constitution in order to do a simple act of manly justice.

Senator McIver had spoken of the big assets of associations. Practically the only assets was a safe. He wanted the measure considered as one to enable the poor man to secure a home, and the building and loan association had been a God-send to the poor man who wanted to secure a home for his wife and children. Ten of these associations had been organized in Charleston and were giving relief. The defeat of this bill meant the imposition not only of State taxes, but of city taxes also, and all knew how much heavier city taxes were. He believed the Senators would follow the dictates of their hearts in this matter and remember that any imposition which looked towards destroying the home could not be right.

A vote on the motion to strike out the enacting words resulted: Yeas 21, nays 10. So the bill was killed.

THURSDAY PROCEEDINGS.

Columbia, Feb. 18.—The House today, after a considerable bloodless skirmish, passed the Senate bill, which is said to be a step toward allowing the various counties to do as they please upon the dispensary. The bill, as it passed the House and Senate, says to the counties: "All right, you may get rid of a dispensary; but if you wish to do so you must pay one-half of one mill on all the taxable property in the county for the enforcement of the dispensary law in that particular county, and you must not get any part of the surplus that may remain in the dispensary school fund after the deficiencies, which are small, have been paid. In other words, the bill permits counties to vote out dispensaries, but at the same time the tax is so heavy that the temptation will be somewhat chilled by the imposition of a direct tax incident to the removal of the dispensary. The dispensary forces carried the bill through absolutely as they wished it and, but for two immaterial amendments, the bill as it came over from the Senate was adopted, and all of the amendments that were accepted were proposed by the committee and Mr. Tamm, who was in charge of the bill. The Senate, will, no doubt, accept the House amendment and the bill will be ordered to be ratified as it stands.

The bill which is directed against slot machines was passed and ordered to be ratified, but it does not include in its provisions automatic weighing, measuring, musical and vending machines which are so constructed as to give a certain uniform and fair return in value for each coin deposited therein, and in which there is no element of chance.

The House gave the final reading to a number of its own bills and with the clearing of the Calendar of all House bills there now remains but very little to be done at this session.

The Senate this morning devoted a great deal of its time to measures to prevent unreasonable delays in the shipment of freights by railroads.

Two bills looking in this direction have already passed the House and were under discussion. No action on the matter was taken this morning, and the bills were made a special order for the night session.

The House resolution to give the old commission for the completion of the State House an opportunity to reply to the report of the Legislative investigating committee was called by Senator Talbird, who made a statement in regard to the matter, asking that the Senate give the old commission such relief as it saw fit. It was proposed by Senator Mayfield to allow the commission an opportunity to reply after the adjournment of the session, if their reply should not be made before, and that their reply should be printed in the Journal.

Senator Aldrich objected to this, because he didn't think it right for the Senate to place in its permanent records something that it didn't know anything about, and if the report should reflect on him he wanted an opportunity to reply.

Columbia, Feb. 20.—The General Assembly of 1904 has concluded its work. The legislation looking towards biennial sessions, the creation of a department of immigration, placing the telephone companies under the railroad commissioners, the passage of the franchise tax, the library bill, the extreme liberality of the law-makers were among the distinguishing features of this session. It has been far above an average General Assembly. It has worked hard and deserves every credit for good intentions.

It was intended that the session should adjourn early in the day, but it was after 10 o'clock at night when Governor Heyward reported to the committee that he had no further communication and the courtesies of the two houses were exchanged. The law makers have a tedious day of it always on the last day of the session and today was no exception. The House cleared its decks early in the day by refusing to consider any third reading bills today, and that relieved the engrossing department very much, but the Senate kept pegging away on its Calendar until late in the day. At 10:22 Speaker Smith formally closed the Legislative session. The House today heard the reply of the old commission, which is an intensely interesting paper. Provision was made for the completion and repairs of the State House at an expense of \$45,000 today.

The Senate was in session for four hours this morning, disposing of measures on the Calendar and getting ready for final adjournment some time this afternoon or tonight.

A house bill for beautifying the State House grounds was amended so as to carry only an appropriation of \$45,000 for the completion of the State House, the provision as to beautifying the grounds being stricken from the bill. The bill, as passed by the Senate and sent to the House for concurrence in the amendments, provides that no contracts except for heating apparatus and repairs to prevent deterioration of the building, shall be made until the conclusion of the litigation to be instituted against the architect and contractors who had in charge the recent addition to the State House. It was desired not to destroy the evidences of the alleged bad work on that contract.

The bill imposing a capitation tax on dogs was passed exactly as it came from the House.

The conference committee's report on the Aldrich substitute for the Coggeshall and Beanguard bills, to prevent delay in freight transportation, was a surprise to the Senate this afternoon. The Coggeshall bill provided a time limit within which railroads must deliver freight, and it was brought up in the senate a few days ago and the Aldrich substitute adopted instead of the bill. The substitute provided delivery in reasonable time instead of a definite limit.

The conference committee's report had amended the Aldrich substitute by striking out "a reasonable time" and inserting "a time limit" schedule which, however, gave more time for delivery than did the Coggeshall bill. The senate was surprised and an argument ensued, the report being finally adopted.

Railroads must now deliver goods within the following schedule: From midnight of the day it is received; not over 100 miles; 72 hours; 100-200 miles, 96 hours; over 200 miles 120

hours. The penalty is \$5 per day. This is, by far the most important piece of legislation of the session of 1904.

The bill to validate laborers' checks in the hands of holders was passed with certain exemptions.

The reading of the answer of the commission for the completion of the State House consumed a good deal of time.

In both the House and Senate a number of bills that had almost reached the stage of maturity, died for lack of time to receive the final reading. In the House, which being resolved into a committee of the whole, Mr. Moses was called to the chair, while resolutions of thanks to Speaker Smith and other officers were adopted.

In the Senate Mr. Manning was called to preside while resolutions were passed thanking Lieutenant Governor Sloan and President pro tem J. C. Sheppard and other officers for their efficient services, all of which were eloquently responded to by the various officials referred to.

CAPERS AND BRAYTON.**The Former Writes a Letter Concerning the Charges Made Against Him by the Latter.**

District Attorney John G. Capers has sent to the Southern Reporter the following letter in reply to the bitter attack made upon him by Mr. E. M. Brayton some days ago.

Dear Sir: As you have persistently given so much space to attacks upon me in your paper for several months, and as the most malicious and outrageous of these attacks appeared in your last issue, signed by that prince of soreheads, E. M. Brayton, I ask a few lines to say—without reviewing the details of his slanderous article—that I never participated in or witnessed a lynching in my life; never defrauded anybody in a pension claim, or in any other claim, in my life, and that statements that I have done either are premeditatedly and wickedly untrue and outrageous and a gross injustice to me.

For a week at least my friends in Richland County have written and wired me asking if they should defeat Brayton for delegate at the State Convention from that county, stating that he proposed to attack me in the convention if elected a delegate. To all of these inquiries I have replied: "Send him to the State Convention. I have nothing to be ashamed of and can show clean hands in reply to any attack he may make upon me."

John G. Capers.

The New York Age has this to say concerning the reconciliation between Capt. J. G. Capers and the negro leader, Deas:

"There was a meeting of the Republican executive committee of South Carolina recently at Columbia, when, according to the Indicator and Industrial, there was a veritable political love feast," as State Chairman Deas and National Committeeman Capers buried the hatchet and smoked the cheroot of peace. It must have been a sight for goods and men to see, but we are glad that it eventuated, and hope it will remain eventuated. Perhaps Mr. Deas, who has a big heart and is a fighter from the drop of the bandana, will now recall the abusive language he hurled at the writer, in Washington, in last December, for advising him to do what he has now done. We believe that Mr. Capers desires to pull fair in the party, and Chairman Deas can help him do so. The Age is the good friend of both sides, forgetting the disagreeable past and moving forward to the good hopes that the future holds out to them that agree and work in harmony together for party and race success."

BALTIMORE FIRE LOSSES.**Total Gross Loss is \$32,864,894, of which \$6,000,000 Falls on Local Companies.**

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 19.—The Baltimore Underwriter, in its issue tomorrow, will print the list of losses of all the fire insurance companies in the Baltimore fire. The total gross loss in \$32,864,894, of which \$6,000,000 falls upon the local companies. The estimated total of salvage is \$1,769,762, which leaves a net loss to the insurance companies of \$31,095,132. It has been learned that many of the large wholesale dry goods houses formed an insurance pool among themselves which amounted to about \$5,000,000, from which practically nothing will be realized. Another development is that very few of the tenants of the so-called fire proof buildings carried any insurance.

At the Chamber of Commerce today merchants reported a cheerful outlook for the wholesale and jobbing houses, with a surprising amount of business coming here, especially from the South.

Diplomats Go to Far East.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 22.—J. M. Ferguson, the second secretary of the American legation in Tokio, who has been in this country on leave of absence, sailed for Yokohama today. Mr. Ferguson is fully informed of the policy of Secretary Hay in regard to the present situation in the Far East and on his arrival in Tokio he will be in a position to advise Minister Griscom personally of the Secretary's wishes.

Chinese Minister to Speak.

Peoria, Ill., Feb. 22.—Five hundred guests will be seated at the tables in the Coliseum tonight on the occasion of the Washington Birthday banquet of the Creve Coeur club. Bishop Spalding will preside and the speakers will include Sir Chen Liang Cheng, the Chinese Minister at Washington, Hon. William F. Gurley, of Nebraska, Hon. Charles W. Miller, of Indiana, James R. Garfield of Ohio, and the Rev. James E. Freeman of Yonkers, New York.

Marcelles, Feb. 21.—The French steamship Saluzie sailed from here today, carrying troops and supplies. Her destination is Tonquin, Indo-China. The Government has also chartered the French steamship Adour for the same purpose.

EMPLOYERS ORGANIZING FOR PROTECTION.**The Unreasonable Demands of Organized Labor Have Become so Oppressive that Steps Must be Taken to Fight the Unions.**

Special to The Daily Item. Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 22.—From Birmingham in the South to Kansas City and Denver in the West, manufacturers and other employers have assembled in Indianapolis to complete the organization of the Citizens' Industrial Association of America. The association, which is an off-shoot of the National Association of Manufacturers, has for its declared purpose the mutual protection of employers against the so-called reasonable demands and encroachments of organized labor.

D. M. Parry of this city, president of the Citizens Industrial association and also of the manufacturers' association delivered a strong address at the opening session of the conference today. Discussing the purposes of the new organization, he declared that the association stands pre-eminently for the open shop as opposed to the closed shop demanded by the American Federation of Labor. He said that the industrial welfare of the nation was dependent upon the ability of the present organization movement among employers to put an end to the closed shop programme of organized labor. He said that during the last year there were hundreds of strikes or labor surrenders, and that the loss occasioned thereby to the aggregate wealth of the country is a national disaster. Organized labor he said, cannot hope to better its membership by making the country poorer.

The first tilt of the new association with the labor organizations will come over the anti-injunction bill which is now before congress and which the American Federation of Labor is bending every energy to have enacted into law. The industrial association intends to fight the passage of the bill, and will use every influence it has, by means of telegrams and letters, and it is probable also that the conference will appoint a committee to go to Washington and personally conduct the fight against the measure.

Though no set programme has been prepared for the conference arrangements have been made for a number of interesting addresses to be delivered today and tomorrow, in addition to the address of President Parry and the reports of Secretary A. C. Marshall and other officers of the association. C. W. Post, of Battle Creek, will discuss the establishment of a national bureau, where a record may be kept of men who violate the law during a strike. Frederick E. Matson, of Indianapolis, and Frederick Job, secretary of the Chicago Employers' association, will speak on the anti-injunction bill, and addresses will be made on the eight hour bill and other matters of interest to the employers throughout the country.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Russia is addressing the Powers, either through their representatives at St. Petersburg, the Emperor's envoys abroad, or probably through both, a vigorous communication, charging Japan with repeated violations of the laws of nations. First, as the note alleges, in threatening to attack a neutral port, Chemulpo, Corea, unless the Russian ships within came out to face an overwhelming force, and second, it states that in attacking Port Arthur before war had been declared, and while the Japanese minister at St. Petersburg was still enjoying the protection and the courtesies of the Russian Government, to which, it is alleged, he had just previously addressed a communication, expressing his belief that the interruption of diplomatic relations between the two companies would be brief.

New York, Feb. 23.—W. Bourke Cockran was elected without opposition today at the special election held in the Twelfth District to fill the vacancy in Congress caused by the resignation of George B. McClellan after his election as mayor of New York. The district is overwhelmingly Democratic and the Republicans decided not to put up a candidate, fearing the effect of big Democratic majority on the election next fall.

Aiken, Feb. 21.—Last night about 10 o'clock a negro man accosted a lady on South Boundary street, and when she screamed and ran he chased her for several hundred yards and also fired a pistol at her twice. The lady is a northerner—Miss Kirke—and is a trained nurse who is attending a patient in a family of Boston people here for the season.

Kansas City, Feb. 21.—Lorenzo Crosby, of Arizona, a Mormon elder from Eager, who shot himself yesterday in a sleeping car on the Chicago and Alton passenger train from St. Louis, died today at the city hospital. Crosby had been doing missionary work for the Mormon church in Georgia and Virginia. He was about 35 years of age.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 21.—A mysterious homicide occurred at Salem, N. C., about 1 o'clock this morning, Sidney Disher, aged 21, being the victim. He received a pistol ball through the heart. Tom Munday, Ralph Sanders and Milton Powell, young men who were with Disher at the time of the shooting, were arrested and are in jail awaiting the action of the coroner.

Letter to R. I. Manning.

Sender, S. C.

Dear Sir: Mr. Frank Robinson, Titusville, Pa. bought Devos with a good deal of feeling against the whole tribe of mixed paints. Our agents there, Messrs. Kernochan & Co. got him to do it. He says:

I am more than pleased with the job. I had one third of the paint left over: I know of several other jobs, a year old or more, painted with Devos, that are wearing well.

What a pity we have to all go through the same school, to find out what paint to put on a house! Experience teaches. Isn't there any easier way to learn?

Yours truly

F. W. Devos & Co

P. S.—L. B. Durant sells our paint